AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of managing processes, the method comprising:

determining a set of available resources, each available resource being unallocated to any process;

determining a set of lagging processes, each lagging process running behind a target schedule;

determining an anticipated benefit for the set of available resources for each process in the set of lagging processes, the anticipated benefit for each process including an anticipated performance improvement to the process should the set of available resources be allocated as additional resources for the process, wherein the anticipated performance improvement comprises an anticipated difference in at least one execution metric for the process; and

writing the anticipated benefit for each process to a recordable medium.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising allocating the set of available resources to at least one of the set of lagging processes based on the anticipated benefit.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the at least one of the set of lagging processes comprises a most responsive process for the set of available resources, the most responsive process having the highest anticipated benefit.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising executing each process using its allocated resources.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising reallocating a resource allocated to an accelerated process to one of the set of lagging processes.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising allocating the set of available resources to an accelerated process, wherein the accelerated process comprises a most responsive process for the set of available resources.

7. (Currently amended) A method of managing processes, the method comprising:

determining a set of available resources, each available resource being unallocated to any process;

determining an anticipated benefit for the set of available resources for each process based on learned benefit knowledge, each process executing on a computer system, the anticipated benefit for each process including an anticipated performance improvement to the process should the set of available resources be allocated as additional resources for the process, wherein the anticipated performance improvement comprises an anticipated difference in at least one execution metric for the process, and the learned benefit knowledge including information on a benefit to at least one execution metric from at least one previous allocation of resources for each process; and

allocating at least some of the set of available resources to a process based on the anticipated benefits.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the process comprises a most responsive process for the set of available resources, the most responsive process having the highest anticipated benefit.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining an anticipated time savings for each process based on the anticipated benefit and a desired execution period.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein a plurality of the processes comprise sub-processes of a first process, further comprising determining a performance benefit for the first process.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining a set of lagging processes.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the allocating step includes allocating at least some of the set of available resources to at least one of the set of lagging processes based on the anticipated benefits for the set of lagging processes.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

    allocating a set of required resources to each process; and

    executing each process using the allocated resources.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising providing an execution result and a lag time of a first process to a second process, the lag time indicating a difference

between an actual execution time and a desired execution period for the first process, wherein the second process requires the first process to complete execution before starting to execute.

15. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the allocating step is further based on a minimum amount of the set of available resources that is required for the anticipated benefit.

16. (Currently amended) A computer system for managing processes, the system comprising:

a resource system for determining an availability of resources, wherein a resource is available when it is not currently allocated to any process;

a benefit system for determining an anticipated benefit for each process based on a set of available resources and learned benefit knowledge, each process executing on a computer system, the anticipated benefit for each process including an anticipated performance improvement to the process should the set of available resources be allocated as additional resources for the process, wherein the anticipated performance improvement comprises an anticipated difference in at least one execution metric for the process, and the learned benefit knowledge including information on a benefit to at least one execution metric from at least one previous allocation of resources for each process; and

an allocation system for allocating resources to processes based on the anticipated benefits.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising a status system for determining a status of each process, wherein the allocation system further allocates resources based on the status of each process.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising an execution system for executing each process using the allocated resources.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the anticipated benefit is based on a set of entries stored in a benefit knowledge database.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein each entry in the set of entries includes a relative performance change and a corresponding set of additional resources.

21. (Currently amended) A program product stored on a recordable medium for managing processes, which when executed comprises:

      program code for determining an availability of resources, wherein a resource is available when it is not currently allocated to any process;

      program code for determining an anticipated benefit for each process based on a set of available resources and learned benefit knowledge, each process executing on a computer system, the anticipated benefit for each process including an anticipated performance improvement to the process should the set of available resources be allocated as additional resources for the process, wherein the anticipated performance improvement comprises an anticipated difference in at least one execution metric for the process, and the learned benefit knowledge including information on a benefit to at least one execution metric from at least on previous allocation of resources for each process; and

      program code for allocating the set of available resources to a process based on the anticipated benefits.

22. (Original) The program product of claim 21, further comprising program code for determining a status of each process, wherein the program code for allocating is further based on the status of each process.

23. (Original) The program product of claim 21, further comprising program code for executing each process using the allocated resources.